

Serial No. 09/714,726

Leland James Wieseuegel

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Section I:
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.121 to the
CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended):

A method for preparing and presenting entitled offerings to prospective brokers, said prospective brokers including buyers and bidders, and for collecting bids from said prospective buyers, bidders and brokers in response to said offerings, said method comprising the steps of:

establishing one or more broker entitlement schema in an offering and bid collection system, said broker entitlement schema being based on a contractual arrangement between one or more brokers, one or more traders, and manufacturer or service provider; providing a broker profile for each prospective broker in a computer-readable record, each broker profile each broker entitlement schema containing one or more entitlement definitions indicating contractually allowable items which may be offered for sale to each broker by said trader a broker may receive;

transmitting a first list of available items offered for sale by said manufacturer or service provider from said manufacturer or service supplier to a trader;

preparing one or more entitled offerings through filtering an available said first list of available items list according to said broker entitlement schema profiles such that said prepared entitled offerings include only offerings information for one or more items to which a each broker is allowed to purchase offers as defined by the prospective each broker's associated broker entitlement schema definitions; and

subsequent to said preparation of entitled offerings but prior to receiving any bids to purchase any offered items, presenting via a computer user interface said entitled offerings to one or more prospective brokers such that each broker may review his or he entitled offerings containing information regarding items being offered for sale on which the broker is entitled to bid, but are not allowed to view information regarding items to which each broker is not entitled to purchase.

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Claim 2 (currently amended):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said step of providing a ~~broker profile~~ a broker entitlement profile with entitlement definitions comprises providing an item category parameter within said entitlement definitions.

Claim 3 (currently amended):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said step of providing a ~~broker profile~~ a broker entitlement profile with entitlement definitions comprises providing a broker location parameter within said entitlement definitions.

Claim 4 (previously presented):

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The method as set forth in Claim 2 wherein said step of preparing one or more entitled offerings comprises removing items from said available items list which are unmatched by a category parameter within a broker entitlement definition to produce a minimized list of items for which a broker is entitled to receive offerings.

Claim 5 (previously presented):

The method as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said step of preparing one or more entitled offers comprises removing items from said available items list which are unmatched by a broker location parameter within a broker entitlement definition to produce a minimized list of items for which a broker is entitled to receive offerings.

Claim 6 (currently amended):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said step of presenting via a computer user interface said entitled offerings to one or more ~~prospective~~ brokers comprises presenting said entitled offerings via a web browser user interface.

Claim 7 (currently amended):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising the step of receiving one or more bids from said prospective brokers via a computer network subsequent to said step of presenting said entitled offerings to said brokers.

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Claim 8 (previously presented):

The method as set forth in Claim 7 wherein the step of receiving one or more bids comprises receiving bids via a computer network from a web browser system.

Claim 9 (currently amended):

A computer-readable medium containing computer executable program code for preparing and presenting entitled offerings to prospective brokers, said prospective brokers including buyers and bidders, and for collecting bids from said prospective buyers and brokers in response to said entitled offerings in a computer network server, said computer program code causing said computer network server to perform the steps of:

transmitting from a manufacturer or service provider to a trader a first list of items available for purchase from said manufacturer or service provider;

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accessing a at least one broker entitlement schema profile for each prospective broker in a computer-readable record for one or more brokers, each broker profile entitlement schema containing one or more entitlement definitions indicating allowable items for which a broker may receive offerings offers for items to purchase from said manufacturer or service provider according to a contractual agreement ;

preparing one or more entitled offerings through filtering an available said first list of items items list against said broker entitlement schema profiles such that each resulting entitled offering only includes offerings include only one or more items for which a which each broker is allowed to receive offerings offers to purchase, and excludes information regarding items to which each broker is not entitled to purchase, as defined by the prospective broker's entitlement definitions; and

subsequent to said step of preparing entitled offers but prior to receipt of any bids from said brokers to purchase said available items, presenting via a computer user interface said entitled offerings to one or more prospective brokers such that each broker may review lists containing only items available for purchase from said manufacturer or services on which the broker is entitled to bid, his or her entitled offerings.

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Claim 10 (currently amended):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said program code for providing accessing a broker profile entitlement schema with entitlement definitions comprises computer program code for providing an item category parameter within said entitlement definitions.

Claim 11 (currently amended):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said program code for providing accessing a broker profile with entitlement definitions comprises program code for providing a broker location parameter within said entitlement definitions.

Claim 12 (currently amended):

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The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 10 wherein said program code for preparing one or more entitled offerings comprises program code for removing items from said ~~available~~ first items list which are unmatched by a category parameter within a broker entitlement definition to produce a minimized list of items for which a broker is entitled to receive offerings.

Claim 13 (currently amended):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said program code for preparing one or more entitled offerings comprises program code for removing items from said ~~available~~ first items list which are unmatched by a broker location parameter within a broker entitlement definition to produce a minimized list of items for which a broker is entitled to receive offerings.

Claim 14 (currently amended):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said program code for presenting via a computer user interface said entitled offerings to one or more prospective brokers comprises program code for presenting said entitled offerings via a web browser user interface.

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Claim 15 (currently amended):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 further comprising program code for receiving one or more bids from said prospective brokers via a computer network subsequent to said step of presenting said entitled offerings.

Claim 16 (previously presented):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 15 wherein said program code for receiving one or more bids comprises program code for receiving bids via a computer network from a web browser system.

Claim 17 (currently amended):

Q1 An offering system in a computer network for preparing and presenting entitled offerings to brokers, buyers and bidders, ~~herinafter~~ hereinafter collectively referred to as "brokers", said computer network enabling communications between said ~~sales~~ offering system and broker consoles, said offering system comprising:

a database containing one or more broker entitlement schema, each broker entitlement schema containing entitlement definitions according to a contractual relations between a manufacturer or service provider and a broker regarding items to which the broker is entitled to receive offers for purchase ~~entitled sales offerings~~, said database accessible and queriable by network application servers;

an entitled offering preparation server for preparing entitled offerings through filtering lists of available items against said broker entitlement definitions parameters to produce entitled offerings including one or more only items to which a broker is entitled to bid and excluding items to which a broker is not entitled to bid, and for storing entitled sales offerings in said database; and

a network application server for providing ~~sales~~ said entitled offerings to broker console computers, said providing of entitled offerings being performed subsequent to preparation of the entitled offerings but prior to receipt of a bid from said broker.

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Claim 18 (previously presented):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said network application server is an Internet server.

Claim 19 (previously presented):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said network application server is a Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server.

Claim 20 (previously presented):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said network application server is a secure Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTPS) server.

Claim 21 (previously presented):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said network application server is adapted for communications with broker console computers which are web browser devices.

Claim 22 (currently amended):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said entitled sales offering preparation server is adapted to filter lists of available items by broker entitlement parameters definitions including a broker location parameter.

Claim 23 (currently amended):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said entitled sales offering preparation server is adapted to filter lists of available items by broker entitlement parameters definitions including an item category parameter.